



Town of Groton, Connecticut

Meeting Agenda

Town Council

45 Fort Hill Road
Groton, CT 06340-4394
Town Clerk (860)441-6640
Town Manager (860)441-6630

Mayor Harry A. Watson, Councilors Dean Antipas, Kathryn M. Brown-Tracy, Bruce S. Flax, Catherine Kolnaski, Deborah B. Monteiro, Frank O'Beirne, Jr., Rita M. Schmidt, and Paulann H. Sheets

Tuesday, October 20, 2009

7:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

REGULAR MEETING

I. ROLL CALL

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS & MEMORIALS

2009-0239 Proclamation Honoring Gladys Barber Whitehead

Proclamation - TC

Recess for Public Hearing on:

2009-0258 Public Hearing on Property Maintenance Code Ordinance Amendment

Referral

PUBLIC HEARING ON AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 243 ADOPTING THE INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE 2000 FOR THE FORT HILL HOMES NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION ZONE

An Ordinance Amending Town Ordinance No. 243 Adopting the International Property Maintenance Code 2000 for the Fort Hill Homes Neighborhood Revitalization Zone.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GROTON: Section 9-254 shall be amended as follows:

- Section 111.2. Delete existing and change to:

111.2 Membership of Board The members of the Building Code Board of Appeals shall serve as the Board of Appeals for the purpose of this ordinance.

- Section 111.2.1, 111.2.2, 111.2.4 and 111.2.5 Delete.

- Section 111.6. Delete existing and change to:

111.6 Board Decision The board shall modify or reverse the decision of the code official only by a concurring vote of a majority of the total number of members present and voting.

- Section 111.6.1. Delete the existing and change to:

111.6.1 Records and Copies The decision of the board shall be written or stated in the minutes of the board. Written notice of the decision shall be furnished to the appellant and the code official.

- Section 111.7. Delete

Legislative History

10/14/2009 Town Council

Scheduled for Public
Hearing

IV. RECEIPT OF CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

This is the portion of the Council Agenda where the Council welcomes comments from citizens. Each presentation should be limited to five (5) minutes or less, and citizens should, if possible, submit written comments. Presentations should be related to matters pertinent to Groton.

Town Councilors will only ask questions in order to clarify the speaker's presentation and can respond during the Responses to Citizens' Petitions portion of the Town Council meeting. Citizens should make their presentations from the lectern and state their names and addresses for the record.

V. RESPONSES TO CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters listed under Item VI (Consent Calendar) are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. No separate discussion of these items will take place, unless cause is shown prior to the time Council votes on the motion to adopt.

a. Approval of Minutes

2009-0261 Approval of Minutes (Town Council) Resolution - Consent

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Town Council meeting of October 6, 2009 are hereby accepted and approved.

b. Administrative Items

2009-0257 Special Trust Fund Contributions Resolution - Consent

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPECIAL TRUST FUNDS

RESOLVED, that the Town Council hereby accepts contributions to the Town as follows:

Zoe V. Lappin - \$20.00 - Library Miscellaneous

Danielle Coates - \$200.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Fitch Middle School Staff in Memory of Michael Paterno - \$30.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Various Donations - \$389.05 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program

Southeastern Connecticut Womens Network - \$270.94 - Library Miscellaneous

c. Deletions from the Town Council Referral List

2009-0232 Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (DPUC) Grant Referral

2009-0244 Renaming of Groton-New London Airport Referral

2009-0255 Bodenwein Public Benevolent Foundation Grant - Arts Cafe Mystic Referral

2009-0259 Referral of SEA--CMEEC Electric Generating Facilities to Planning Commission Under CGS 8-24 Referral

2009-0260 Pending Litigation Settlement Referral

VII. COMMUNICATION REPORTS (Other than Committee Reports)

a. Town Councilors

b. Clerk of the Representative Town Meeting

c. Clerk of the Council

d. Town Manager

e. Town Attorney

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Community & Cultural Development - Chairman Brown-Tracy

- b. Economic Development - Chairman Flax**
- c. Education/Health & Social Services - Chairman Kolnaski**
- d. Environment/Energy - Chairman Sheets**
- e. Finance - Chairman Schmidt**
- f. Personnel/Appointments/Rules - Chairman O'Beirne**
- g. Public Safety - Chairman Monteiro**
- h. Public Works/Recreation - Chairman Antipas**
- i. Committee of the Whole - Mayor Watson**

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

2009-0232 Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (DPUC) Grant Referral

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR A DPUC GRANT FOR GROTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

WHEREAS, the Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (DPUC) provides non-matching grants under their program for public education and governmental programming and education technology investment, authorized by Public Act 07-253, and

WHEREAS, televised meetings of the Town Council, Committee of the Whole meetings, and other events from Community Room 1 are very important to the citizenry, and

WHEREAS, the grant sought by the Groton Public Library for Groton Municipal Television would allow the installation of multiple remotely controlled cameras to give better visual coverage of officials and public speakers at meetings, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Town Manager Mark R. Oefinger may apply for a DPUC grant of \$41,280, under the program codified at Section 16-331cc of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Legislative History

9/16/2009	Mayor	Referred	Town Council Committee of th
10/13/2009	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Recommended for a Resolution	

2009-0244 Renaming of Groton-New London Airport Referral

RESOLUTION TO RETAIN THE NAME OF GROTON - NEW LONDON AIRPORT

WHEREAS, some local businesses have proposed to the State of Connecticut that the Groton - New London Airport be renamed, and

WHEREAS, this important and well-known airport is located entirely within the Town of Groton, where it accommodates a substantial variety of businesses and travelers, and

WHEREAS, no substitute name has been proposed which could justify removing the existing, fully descriptive name of the Groton - New London Airport, and

WHEREAS, the City of Groton and the City of New London councils have voted unanimously to oppose any name change, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Groton opposes changing the name of the Groton - New London Airport and directs that a letter be sent to the Connecticut Department of Transportation conveying this resolution.

Legislative History

9/29/2009	Mayor	Referred	Town Council Committee of t
10/6/2009	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Discussed	

Mayor Watson noted the recent editorial on this issue by Jim Streeter. Mayor Watson and Councilor Flax attended the Groton Business Association (GBA) meeting where this issue was discussed and the GBA unanimously recommended a name change for the airport but did not recommend a specific name. The New London City Council has recommended against changing the name of the airport. A number of Councilors noted that they have received negative comments about changing the name. Councilor O'Beirne suggested sending a letter to DOT, with a copy to the GBA and Mystic Chamber, indicating that the Council does not want the name of the airport changed.

Councilor Sheets arrived at 6:50 p.m.

10/6/2009	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Recommended for a Resolution
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The Town Manager recommended some language and reasons to support retaining the name. He noted that he had received a telephone call from the Airport Manager, Catherine Young, suggesting a name change which he did not receive favorably, but he did not realize that the suggestion was under consideration by the GBA. Mayor Watson noted that he will raise the issue at the Council of Governments meeting on October 21st.

2009-0255 Bodenwein Public Benevolent Foundation Grant - Arts Cafe Mystic Referral

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR A BODENWEIN GRANT FOR THE ARTS CAFÉ-MYSTIC

WHEREAS, for fifteen years the Arts Café-Mystic has been a popular program that provides live performances by writers and musicians, supports the local writing community, and gives scholarships to student writers at local high schools, and

WHEREAS, the Arts Café-Mystic has received grants from the Bodenwein public Benevolent Foundation for many years, allowing the Town of Groton's Department of Parks and Recreation to administer the Arts Café performances, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Manager may apply for and accept a Bodenwein Foundation grant of \$5,000 for the grant period covering Fall, 2010, and Spring, 2011.

Legislative History

10/7/2009	Mayor	Referred	Town Council Committee of t
10/13/2009	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Recommended for a Resolution	

2009-0259 Referral of SEA--CMEEC Electric Generating Facilities to Planning Commission Under CGS 8-24 Referral

RESOLUTION REFERRING THE SITING OF ELECTRIC GENERATING FACILITIES TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION

WHEREAS, Sustainable Energy Analytics (SEA) and the Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative (CMEEC) have proposed to place diesel powered electric generators in Groton to provide extra power for peak needs, and

WHEREAS, SEA-CMEEC has stated that harmful emissions from the diesel engines, such as sulfur and particulates will be at the lowest levels available with current technology, and

WHEREAS, SEA-CMEEC wishes to place generators on a Town-owned site adjacent to Gary Court

where there is an existing easement from the Town of Groton to the City of Groton, operating as Groton Utilities, that does not specifically permit electric generating facilities, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council now wishes to enter into a lease with CMEEC to allow the construction, operation and maintenance of two diesel generators, and

WHEREAS, it is proposed that the Town of Groton, the City of Groton, and the Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative enter into an Easement Use Consent Agreement, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council refers the SEA-CMEEC proposal to the Groton Planning Commission for review under CGS. Section 8-24.

Legislative History

10/13/2009	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Referred	Planning Commission
2009-0260	Pending Litigation Settlement		Referral

RESOLUTION TO SETTLE PENDING LITIGATION

WHEREAS, the Town Council has received from the Town Attorney a report on negotiations concerning pending litigation, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council consents to resolve pending litigation titled Levern Green et. al. v. Town of Groton, and authorizes the Town Manager and/or the Town's insurer to cause to be prepared, and to execute, the requisite legal documents to effectuate the settlement, subject to final approval of the Town Attorney as to form and legal sufficiency.

Legislative History

10/13/2009	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Recommended for a Resolution
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XI. OTHER BUSINESS

XII. ADJOURNMENT